Many Scripps-Howard papers published this story by science writer John Troan, who was provided with the details of the study.

INDIANAPOLIS TIMES
Indianapolis, Indiana
October 8, 1960

Medicine Chest

Prosperity Now Blamed For Lung Cancer Increase

Researcher Calls TB Germ Real Culprit, Says It Once Killed Off 'Paupers' Early

By JOHN TROAN
Scripps-Howard Science Writer

Prosperity is now being blamed for the increase in lung cancer in the U. S. A Pennsylvania physician says better times are letting more people live longer. As a result, they stand a greater chance of winding up with lung cancer.

Dr. Philip Schwartz, a pathologist at Warren (Pa.) State Hospital, presents his theory in the Danish medical journal, Acta Tuberculosea Scandinavica.

Basically, Dr. Schwartz thinks all this talk about cigaret smoking causing lung cancer is so much hot air. He believes the tuberculosis germ is the real culprit.

Troan

Once upon a time, he explains, TB used to kill most of its victims before they could reach "the cancer age." So few people got lung cancer.

But that was when "pauperism" was rampant. Today, thanks to "progressive prosperity," TB is in retreat. Most of its victims live into their 50s and 60s. And that's when lung cancer is most likely to strike.

In fact, the doctor says, TB damages the lungs — leaving scars which "may serve as the soil" for cancer. He insists "there is no possible doubt" that cancer can sprout—decades later—in "bronchial scars of tuberculous origin."

Dr. Schwartz reports seeing 14 such cases himself. He also describes 24 others in which he found both cancerous and non-cancerous tumors associated with old TB scars.

Of course, he adds, all TB patients don't go on to get lung cancer. Only the minority who are "stigmatized constitutionally"—that is, have a built-up susceptibility to cancer.

On the other hand, many folks who never get sick with TB develop lung cancer. But, he indicates, the TB germ can do its dirty work in silence—by invading a person's lungs and setting the stage for cancer without producing obvious tuberculosis.

Indeed, Dr. Schwartz says, "we may assume" all Americans past age 30 have been infected with TB "bugs" even though they may never get ill from these germs.

Far-fetched? Not nearly as much as the theory that cigaret smoking causes lung cancer, Dr. Schwartz argues. After all, he says, the same statistics used to back up the cigaret theory would show smoking makes you live longer—because the average life span has increased along with the consumption of tobacco.

Yea, Team!

You may not be able to cheer your team to actual victory—but it does help the players do their best.

There's scientific proof that loud shouting, especially when it's unexpected, can improve an athlete's performance by removing psychological blocks, two researchers report.

In fact, they say, an athlete sometimes can help himself by doing his own yelling—as was shown during the recent Olympic Games in Rome.

According to Medical Tribune, a newspaper for physicians, Dr. Michio Ikai of Tokyo University and Dr. Arthur H. Steinhaus of Chicago conducted tests which revealed shouting can increase an athlete's performance by 12 per cent.

Firing an unexpected shot can boost this by as much as 30 per cent, the researchers added. Provided, of course, you don't shoot the athlete.

Small Doses

Diabetes and cirrhosis of the liver occur together more often than is "generally appreciated."—Report by Dr. H. Kalk, Kassel, Germany.

Crossing your legs is bad if you have arthritis in the knees, dropsy or varicose veins.—Dr. Hyman J. Roberts, West Palm Beach, Fla.

Career women who are ambitious and tense get more heart attacks than ordinary housewives. — Dr. Ray H. Rosenman, San Francisco.

More than half of the world's population suffers from hunger or malnutrition, due chiefly to poverty and ignorance. — Dr. B. R. Sen, Food & Agricultural Organization.

Capsules

Studies show a hat helps keep your whole body warm—not just your head.

Alcoholism is responsible for more than twice as much job absenteeism in the U. S. as strikes.

In South Korea, a man can't marry without parental permission until he's 27. But a woman can after 23.

Quick quote, from the Journal of the American Podiatry Association: "Man's foot has grown appreciably in the last century but he can still manage to get it into his mouth."

BOTTLED suntan lotions may produce eczema - like rashes in people allergic to such preparations.—Report by Dr. LEON GOLDMAN, University of Cincinnati.

The "daily consumption of alcohol by Americans poses a greater threat to their health and well-being" than radioactive fallout from atom bombs. — Dr. ANDREW C. IVY, University of Illinois.

10035433339

Source: https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/docs/qfbm0000